nuclear power projects. Cost of large scale wind power projects is likely to be comparable with thermal and nuclear power projects if due consideration is given to the facts that wind power is renewable and has no fuel cost; is environmentally benign; has short gestation and is modular.

(b) The Eight Plan has not been finalized.

**Power production from different sources**

6399. SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the total installed capacity and the actual generation of power from thermal, hydel, nuclear and other sources and the estimated power generation by the end of the Eighth Five Year Plan;

(b) the steps proposed to be taken to bring Bihar and other States at par with the national level with regard to both actual generation and installed capacity; and

(c) the estimated generating capacity of hydel in the country particularly from the Himalayan rivers and the steps proposed to be taken to harness?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) Total installed capacity in the country as on 31.3.1991 in respect of thermal, hydel and nuclear stations is 66,066.01 MW During 1990-91, the generation from these sources was to the extent of 264231 million units. The 8th Plan has not been finalised so far.

(b) Various measure taken to improve availability of power in the country including Bihar, are (i) expediting commissioning of new generating capacity (ii) implementation of short gestation projects (iii) improving the performance of existing power stations (iv) reduction of T & D losses (v) implementation of demand management and energy conservation measures and (vi) arranging transfer of energy from surplus to deficit areas.

(c) As per the Hydro-electric potential assessment by Central Electricity Authority (CEA), the hydro-electric potential of the country has been assessed as 84044 MW at 60% load factor. The Hydro-electric Potential of the Himalayan rivers (generally comprising Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Sikkim, West Bengal, Arunachal Pradesh) is estimated as 59689 MW at 60% load factor. Based on the above assessment, detailed feasibility/project reports are prepared by the respective States and are techno-economically cleared by the CEA. The implementation of the schemes depends upon the availability of resources and other inputs.

[*Translation*]

**Irregularities of trains from Samastipur to Narkatiaganj**

6400. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that trains running between Samastipur to Narkatiaganj always remain irregular and daily passengers have to face great difficulties as a result thereof;

(b) if so, the reasons therefore; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to run local trains regularly?

THE MINISTER OS STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) and (b) Sometimes, the